

MARVEL
COMICS

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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

DAREDEVIL

DAREDEVIL

MAR '97 362

**SECRETS
HIDDEN--**

**--SECRETS
REVEALED!**



AND THE EVER-
EFFERVESCENT
**KAREN
PAGE!**

THE **BLACK WIDOW** AND I SWING THROUGH NEW YORK'S LEGENDARY **CONCRETE CANYONS**, JUST LIKE WE DID WHEN WE WERE **PARTNERS**.

I THINK WE'RE ON THE **TRAIL** OF SOMEONE, BUT I FEEL **TOO GOOD** BEING WITH NATASHA AGAIN TO REALLY CARE **WHO**.

Never Look Back

STILL, THERE'S THIS FEELING THAT SOMETHING ISN'T QUITE **RIGHT**... BUT MAYBE I'M JUST **PARANOID**.

AFTER ALL, EVERYTHING'S **BRIGHT** AND **COLORFUL**. THERE ISN'T A CLOUD IN THE SKY.

KARL KESEL - WRITER
CARY NORD - PENCILER
MATT RYAN, AL MILGROM & HILARY BARTA - INKERS
JL HIGGINS - LETTERER
"MAX" SCHEELE - COLORIST
AMERICAN COLOR - SEPS
JAMES FELDER - EDITOR
BOB HARRAS - CHIEF



THERE
HE IS, MATT--
THE GRIM
READER!

NO!

YOU WON'T
GET ME! NOT
LIKE YOU GOT THE
OTHERS!

C'MON--
SHOW A LITTLE
BACKBONE, GUY!
YOU'RE ONLY DRESSED
LIKE DEATH, FOR
CRYING OUT LOUD!

AND ONLY YOU CAN SAVE
ME, DAREDEVIL! ONLY YOU
CAN PREVENT--

WHAT? FOREST
FIRES? THE END OF
THE WORLD? THE CUBS
WIN THE WORLD
SERIES?

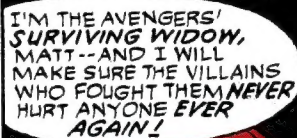
OF COURSE
IF THEY DID,
THAT WOULD
BE A SIGN OF
THE APOCALYPSE...

THIS IS NO JOKE!
ONLY YOU CAN
STOP--

THWEX

--UNGH!
--HEARK!

ANOTHER
ONE DOWN AND
DUSTED!



I'M THE AVENGERS/
SURVIVING WIDOW.
MATT--AND I WILL
MAKE SURE THE VILLAINS
WHO FOUGHT THEM **NEVER**
HURT ANYONE **EVER**
AGAIN!

DON'T **DO**
THIS, NATASHA!
IT ISN'T **YOU!**

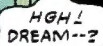
IT **CAN'T**
BE YOU! IT
CAN'T BE--!



MATT?

MATT--IT'S KAREN.

YOU'RE HAVING
QUITE THE **DREAM!**



HGH!
DREAM--?

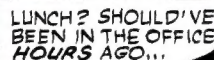
FEELS LIKE...
DIDN'T SLEEP
AT ALL...

WELL, YOU
WERE OUT LIKE A
LIGHT WHEN I GOT
HOME FROM MY
RADIO SHOW!

WAS
GOING TO WAKE
YOU UP **SOON,**
ANYWAY...

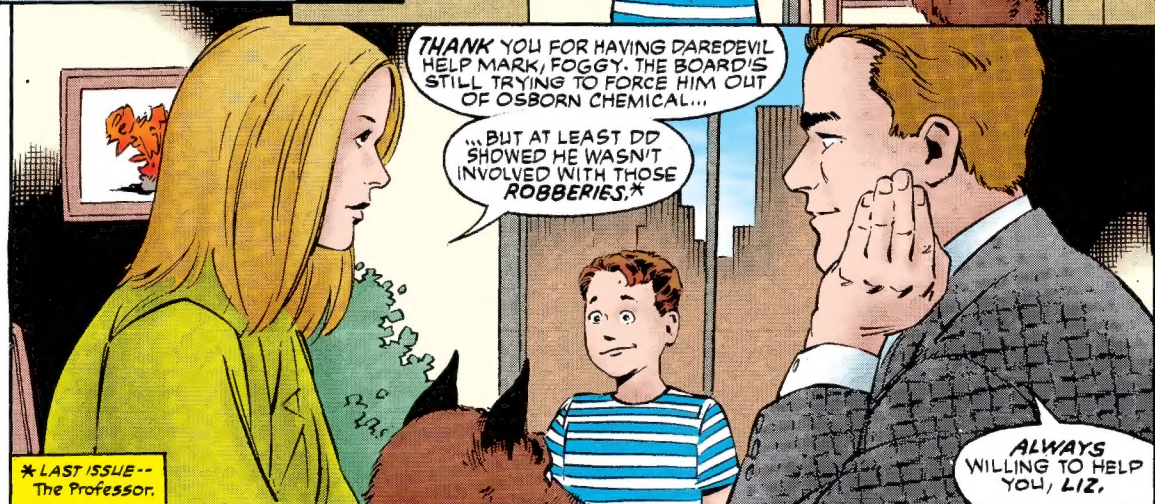
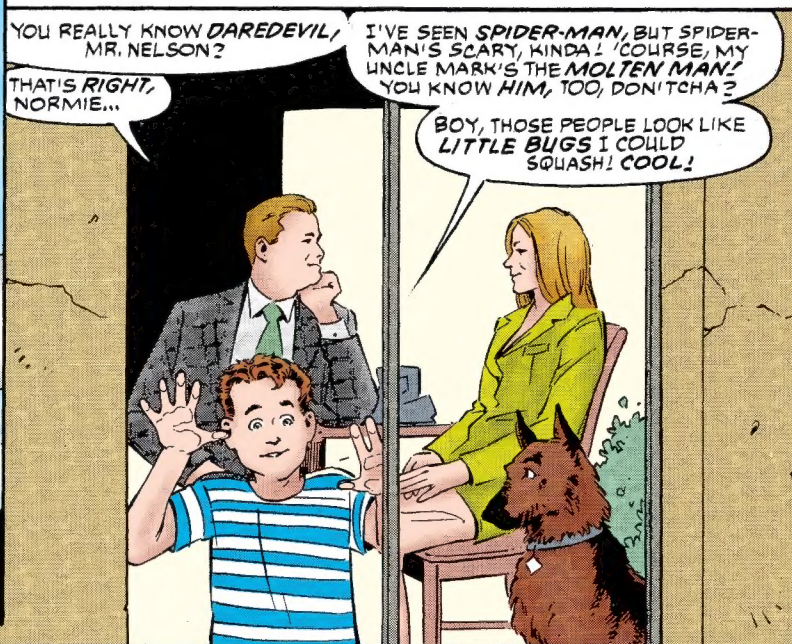
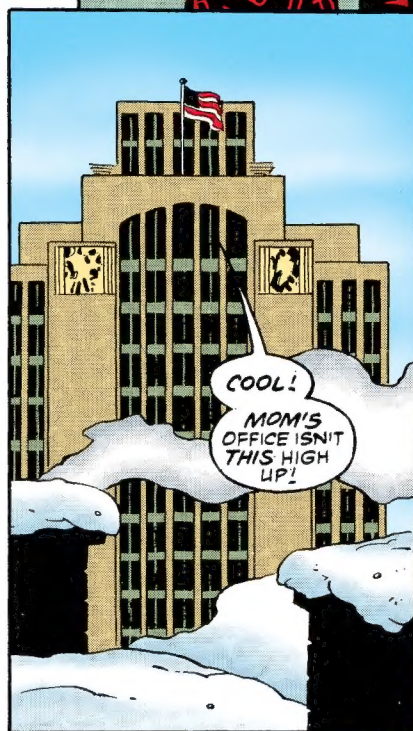
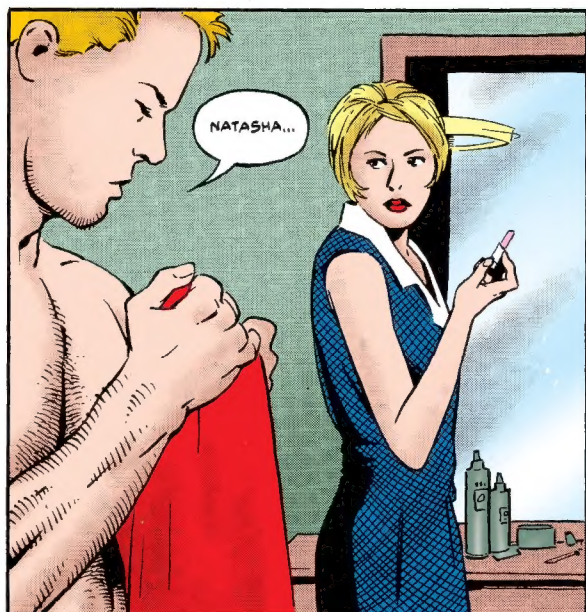
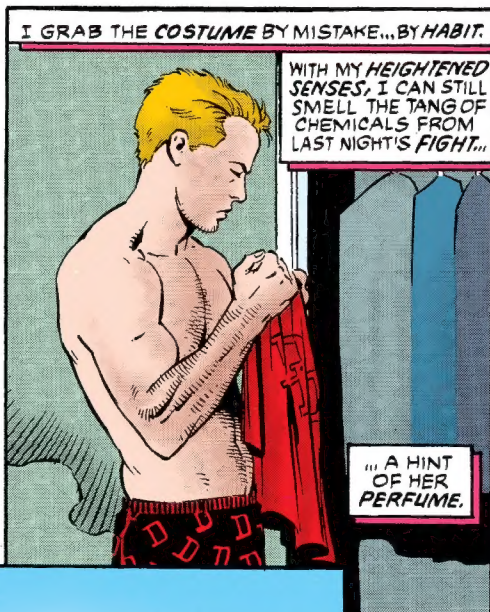


...SINCE IT'S ABOUT
TIME FOR MY LUNCH
WITH "RAZOR" SHARPE--
YOUR LAW FIRM'S
SENIOR PARTNER?



LUNCH? SHOULD'VE
BEEN IN THE OFFICE
HOURS AGO...

DON'T NEED TO GIVE
THAT WOMAN ANY
MORE REASONS TO
DISLIKE ME. COMES
UP WITH **PLENTY**
ON HER--



* LAST ISSUE--
The Professor.

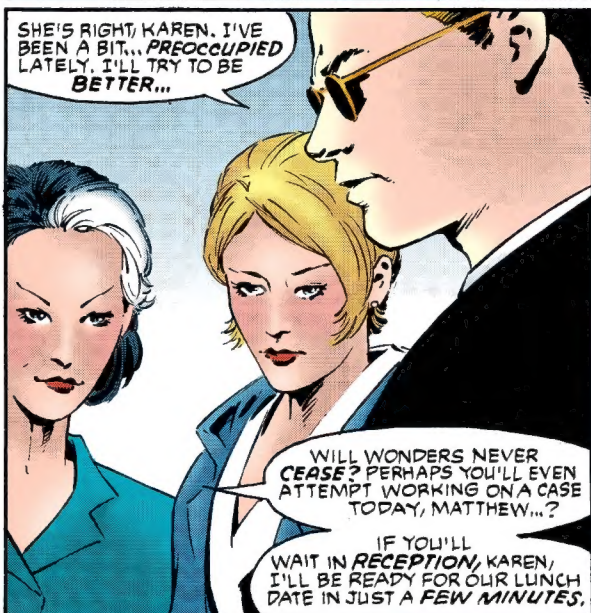




MY, MY, WILL YOU LOOK WHO'S HERE, FRANKLIN-- MS. KAREN PAGE AND MR. MATTHEW MURDOCK!

I COULD HAVE SWORN MATTHEW WORKED AT THIS FIRM, BUT IT SEEMS WE SEE MUCH MORE OF KAREN!

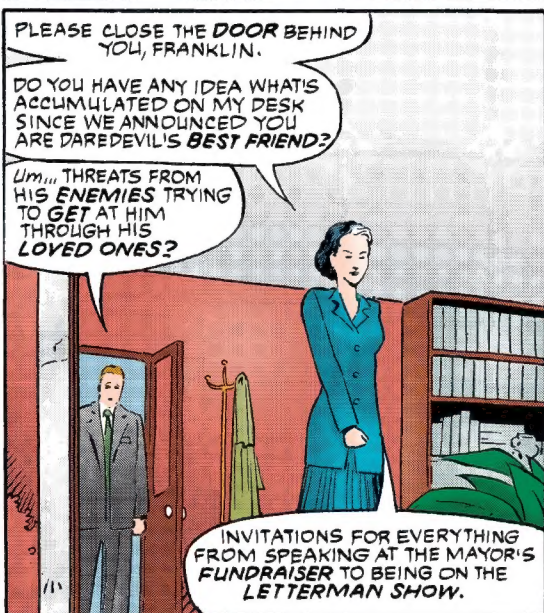
ROSALIND-- PLEASE!



SHE'S RIGHT, KAREN. I'VE BEEN A BIT... PREOCCUPIED LATELY. I'LL TRY TO BE BETTER...

WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE? PERHAPS YOU'LL EVEN ATTEMPT WORKING ON A CASE TODAY, MATTHEW...?

IF YOU'LL WAIT IN RECEPTION, KAREN, I'LL BE READY FOR OUR LUNCH DATE IN JUST A FEW MINUTES.



PLEASE CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU, FRANKLIN.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S ACCUMULATED ON MY DESK SINCE WE ANNOUNCED YOU ARE DAREDEVIL'S BEST FRIEND?

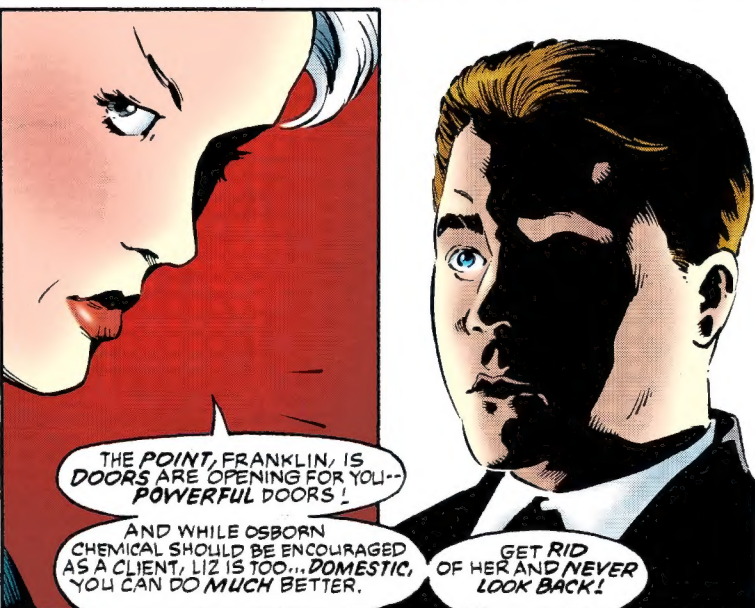
Um... THREATS FROM HIS ENEMIES TRYING TO GET AT HIM THROUGH HIS LOVED ONES?

INVITATIONS FOR EVERYTHING FROM SPEAKING AT THE MAYOR'S FUNDRAISER TO BEING ON THE LETTERMAN SHOW.



THE WORLD'S HUNGRY FOR HEROES, FRANKLIN-- AND YOU'RE A DIRECT LIFE TO ONE OF THEM.

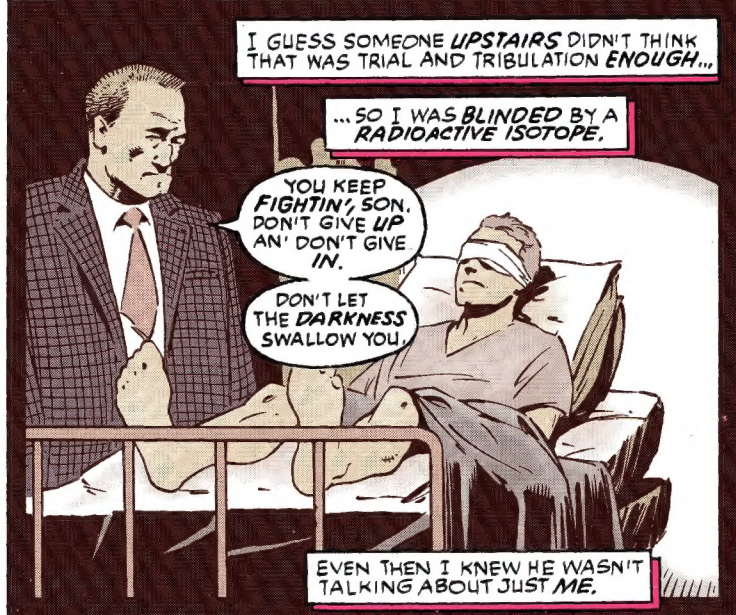
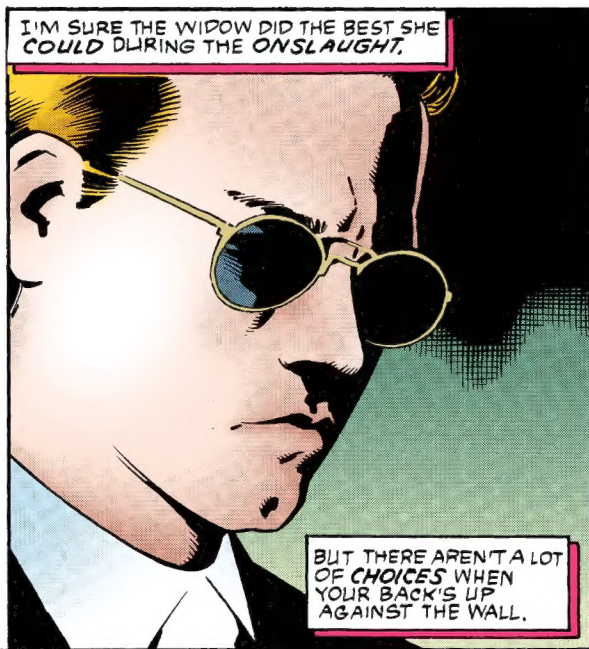
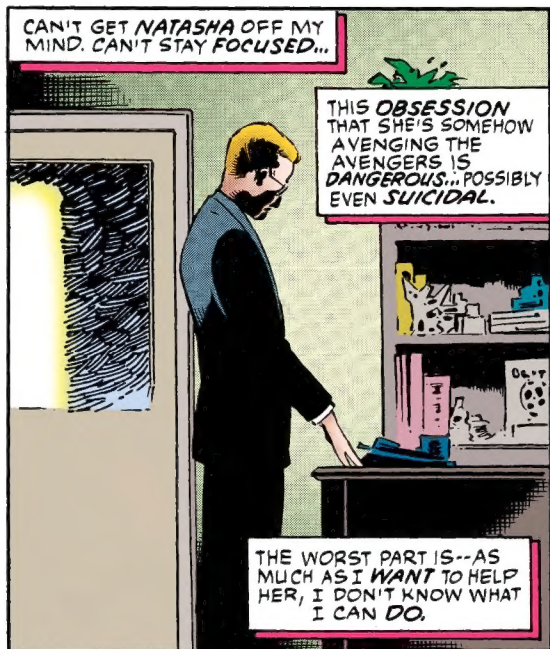
WOW! I'M GOING TO BE ON LETTERMAN!

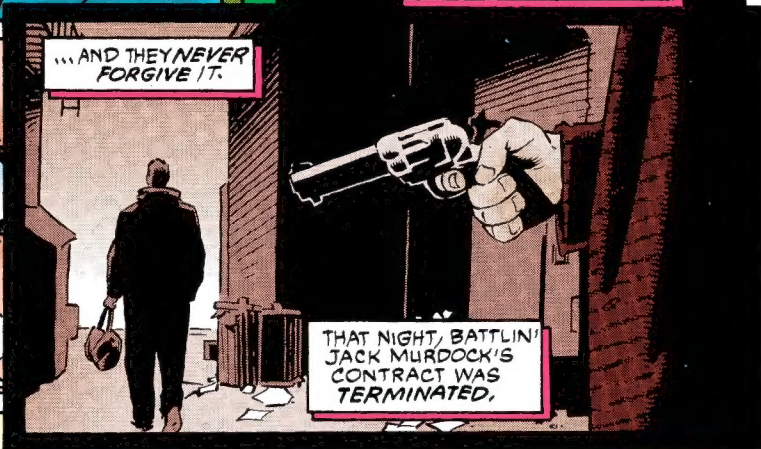
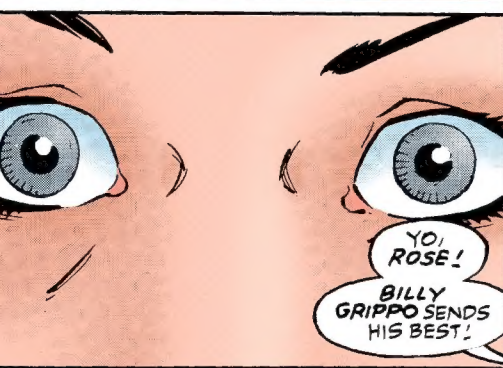
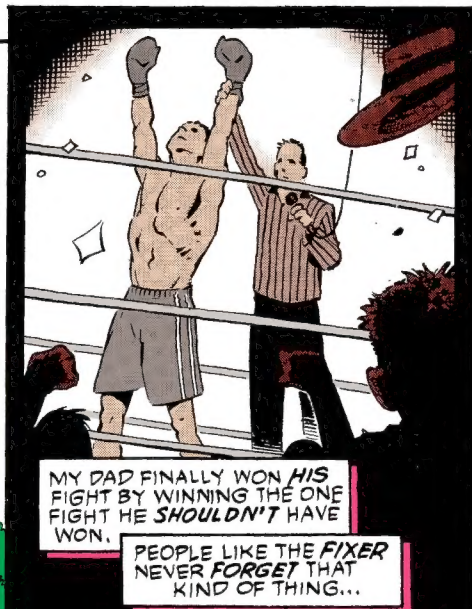
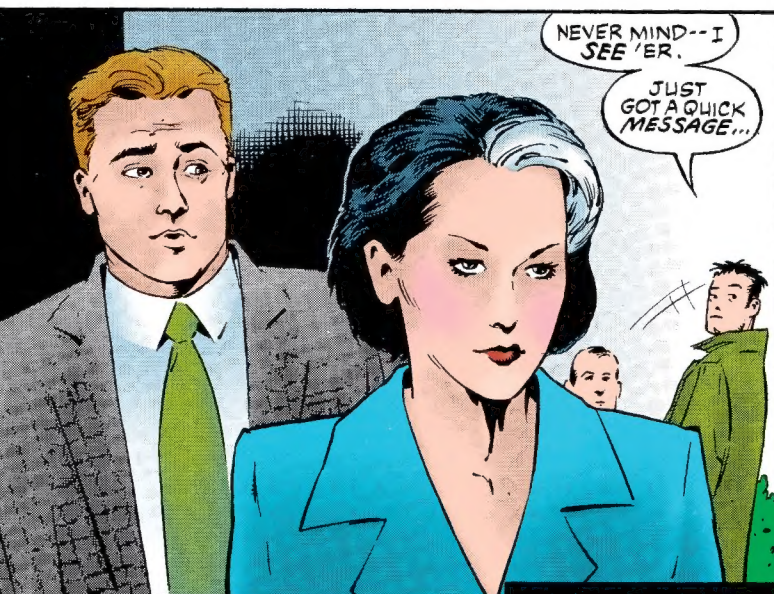


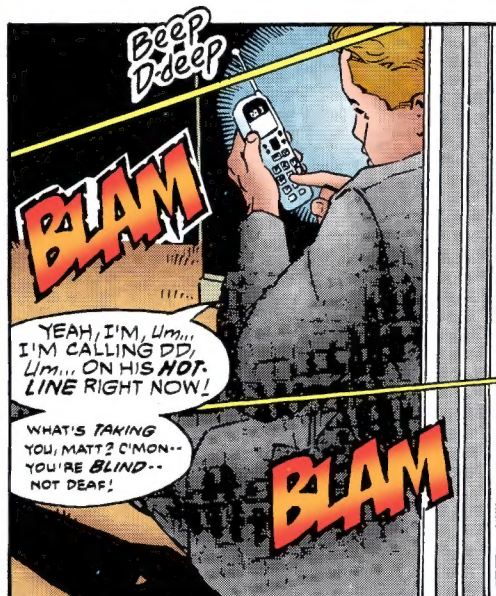
THE POINT, FRANKLIN, IS DOORS ARE OPENING FOR YOU-- POWERFUL DOORS!

AND WHILE OSBORN CHEMICAL SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AS A CLIENT, LIZ IS TOO... DOMESTIC. YOU CAN DO MUCH BETTER.

GET RID OF HER AND NEVER LOOK BACK!



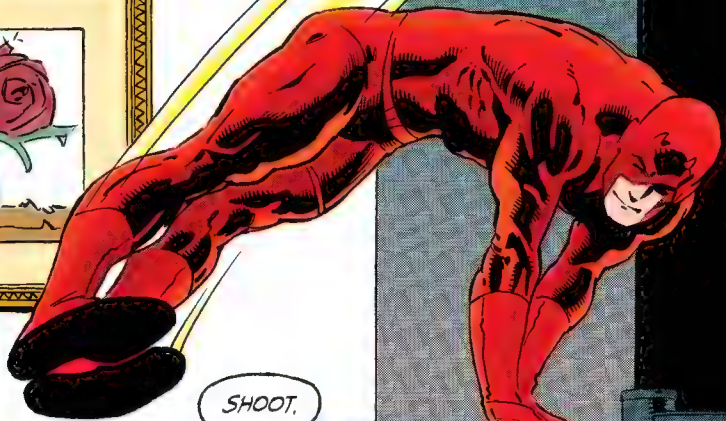
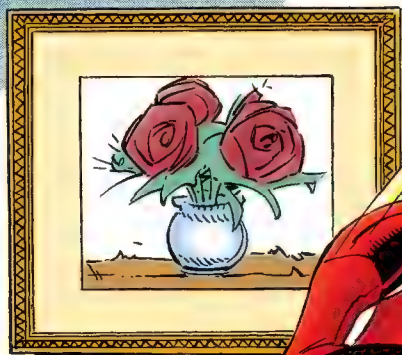




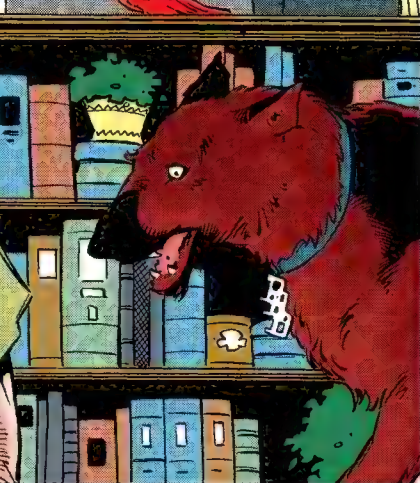
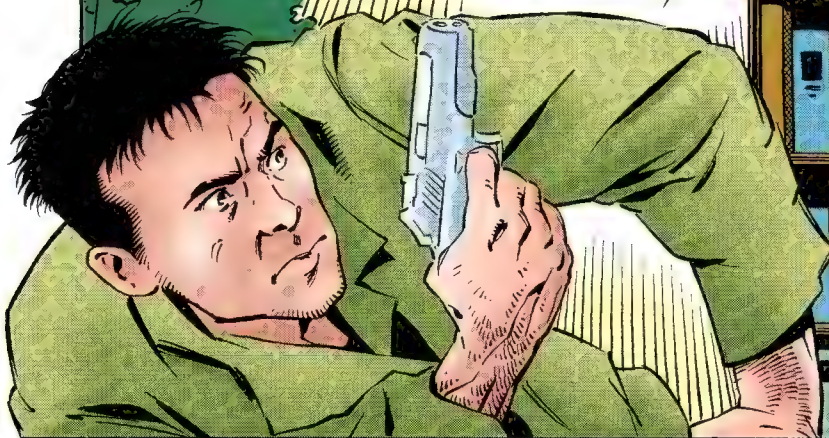
GOOD DOG, DELICE--
BUT LEAVE A LITTLE
FOR ME!

PEOPLE START THINKING
I CAN'T HOLD MY OWN
IN NEW YORK CITY...

NO TELLING *WHERE*
THE SUPER HERO UNION
MIGHT *FARM ME OUT*
TO!



SHOOT.



ACTUALLY--THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT
I'M HERE TO *PREVENT!*

NOW, THIS'LL
HURT *YOU* A LOT
MORE THAN IT'LL
HURT *ME...*

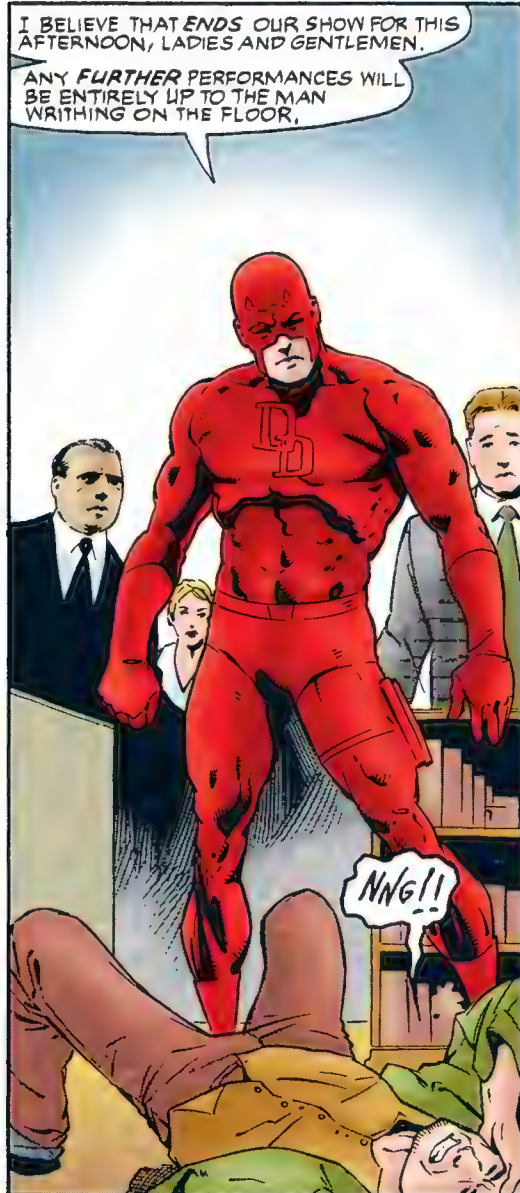


HEAD SPINNING? HERE--LET
ME HELP YOU *UP.*

TAKE YOUR
GUN?

YEAH, I'LL
GIVE IT TO YOU
ALL RIGHT.





THE GRIP AIN'T DEAD, LADY-- BUT HE MIGHT BE SOON ENOUGH! HE'S IN ST. JOE'S WITH A BUM TICKER!

HEH! LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA NEED A LAWYER, HUH? HOW 'BOUT IT, ROSE-- HEAR YOU HELPED OUT A LOT BACK IN--

AS A LAWYER, I'D ADVISE YOU TO STOP TALKING THIS INSTANT, OR...

...ANYTHING YOU SAY CAN AND WILL BE USED AGAINST YOU IN A COURT OF LAW.

IF YOU WERE SMART, THE NEXT TIME YOU SPOKE WOULD BE TO ASK IF MR. GRIPPOIS FORGOTTEN MAY 7th.

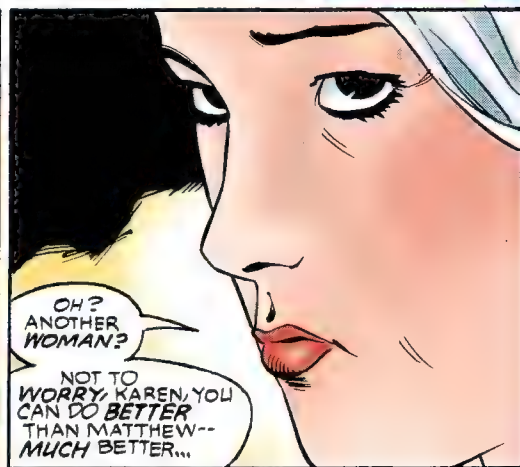
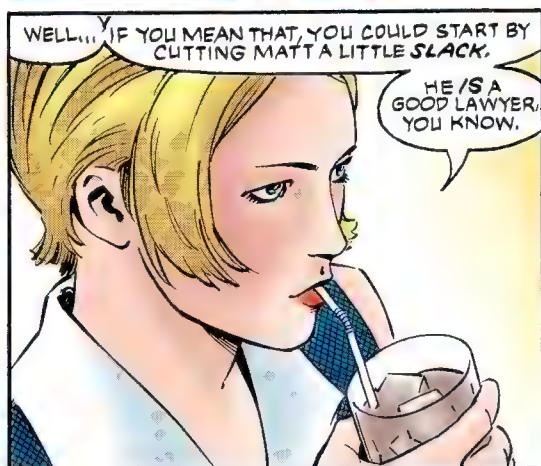
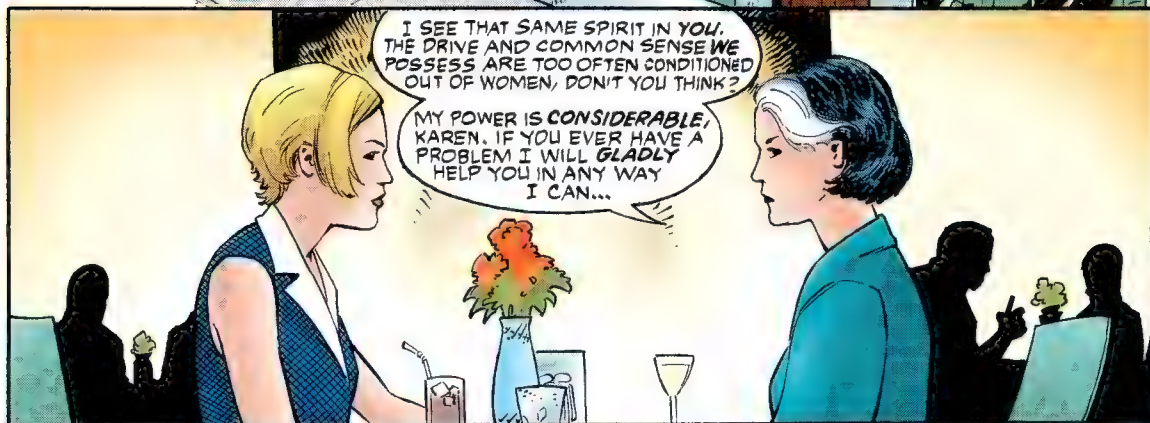
HIS WEAPON, DAREDEVIL.

SUNNY-- PLEASE NOTIFY THE AUTHORITIES.

KAREN, WE'D BETTER BE GOING, WE'RE LATE FOR OUR LUNCH RESERVATION... AND EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL HERE.

Y'KNOW, DD-- THERE'S PROBABLY A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE ROSALIND DEAD... BUT... BUT WHEN SOMEONE ACTUALLY TAKES A SHOT AT HER, I WANT TO KNOW WHAT THE STORY IS.

EXACTLY WHAT I WAS THINKING, COUNSELOR.



IT TAKES A PRIVATE RESEARCH ROOM IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY, TWENTY-SIX BOUND VOLUMES OF THE **BOSTON GLOBE** FOR THE MONTH OF MAY AND FOUR **FINGER-BLACKENING** HOURS OF WORK...

LIEP NANI! DEAD!

BURNED EVIDENCE, COMMITTED SUICIDE AS FEDS MOVED IN.

SENSITIVE FINGERTIPS "READ" THE ARTICLE, FEELING THE INK IMPRESSIONS OF EACH LETTER.

I DOUBT THE POLICE SHED MANY **TEARS** OVER THE MOBSTER'S DEATH... BUT IT STRIKES ME THAT THE **SUICIDE** RULING WAS MADE A LITTLE TOO **QUICKLY**.

A LITTLE TOO **CONVENIENTLY**.

BUT THE FIRST **FIVE YEARS** OF HER SOLO PRACTICE ALMOST ALL HER CASES WERE CONNECTED TO **GRIPPO**.

THEN IT **ENDS**--AS QUICK AS IT BEGAN. HOW'D SHE PULL THAT ONE OFF?

... BUT I THINK I FIND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR.

HOW **GOES** IT, PARTNER? ME-- I THINK MY COMPUTER-SEARCH HIT THE **JACKPOT!**

OH?

YEAH! ALWAYS KNEW ROSALIND TOOK ON **CONTROVERSIAL** CASES AND DEFENDED **KNOWN CRIMINALS**.

WELL, I DOUBT **RAZOR** WILL TELL US.

SO, MAYBE IT'S TIME FOR **DAREDEVIL** TO PAY HIS RESPECTS TO MR. **GRIPPO**...



NOT SO FAST, LA--

IF YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME, IDIOT, YOU'LL KNOW THE LAST THING YOU WANT TO DO IS PULL THAT TRIGGER.

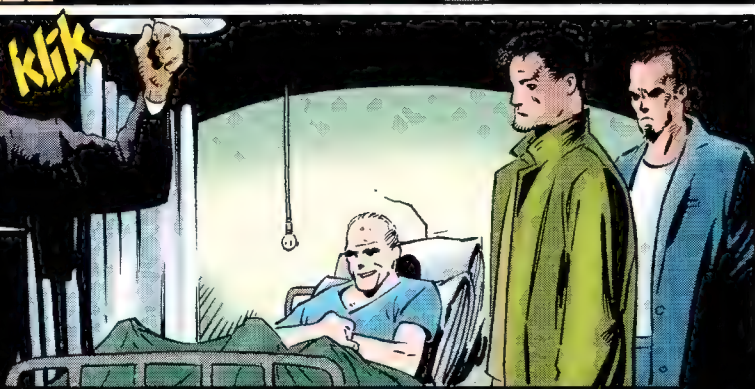
I'M HERE TO SEE BILLY!



SAME OL' ROSE! STILL GOT THE SPARK, Huhh?

HYEK!
KEK!
KEK!

C'MERE--
LEMMIE SEE YA!



I'M ONLY HERE TO MAKE SURE YOU GOT MY MESSAGE, BILLY,

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU SENT YOUR THUG BY MY PLACE TODAY, YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO GO TO JAIL...





A comic book panel showing Daredevil in his red suit and mask, walking on a narrow ledge of a skyscraper. He is holding a woman named Rose, who is wearing a yellow coat and blue pants. They are both looking down at the city below. A yellow beam of light from the sun is shining on them. The background shows the side of a tall building with many windows.

SO WHAT BRINGS
A GIRL LIKE YOU TO A NICE
PLACE LIKE THIS?

I'M SORRY-- THAT'S
A LOUSY PICK-UP LINE, ISN'T
IT?

Ooooooh!

DON'T WORRY--
YOU'RE IN THE HANDS OF
A PROFESSIONAL.

NOT A PROFESSIONAL
SUPER HERO, UNFORTUNATELY--
NO ONE PAYS ME TO DO THIS...

...BUT YOU CAN'T
REALLY PUT A PRICE
ON THIS MUCH FUN,
CAN YOU, ROSE?

I'M ACTUALLY
QUITE GLAD OUR PATHS
CROSSED AGAIN. THIS
AFTERNOON WAS
IDEAL...

YOU MIND
IF I CALL YOU **ROSE**? I
KNOW THERE'RE PLENTY
OF **OTHER** NAMES YOU'VE
BEEN CALLED...

ROSE IS
Um... IS FINE,
DAREDEVIL.

...AND I THINK
WE SHOULD GET TO
KNOW EACH OTHER,
CONSIDERING THAT
YOU AND FRANKLIN
ARE SO CLOSE.

FUNNY YOU
SHOULD **MENTION** THAT,
ROSE-- BECAUSE I'VE
LEARNED SOME VERY **INTEREST-**
ING THINGS ABOUT YOU...

...AND I'M
WONDERING JUST HOW
MUCH I SHOULD TELL
MY GOOD FRIEND,
FOGGY.

THAT
WOULD DEPEND
ENTIRELY ON
HOW MUCH YOU
KNOW...

...OR SHOULD
I SAY-- HOW MUCH
YOU *THINK* YOU
KNOW,

YOU MIGHT BE
SURPRISED. I KNOW
THERE WEREN'T MANY
WOMEN RUNNING THEIR
OWN *LAW PRACTICES*
THIRTY YEARS AGO.



"...IMAGINE IT WAS
PRETTY *DIFFICULT*
AT FIRST.

"FIERCELY INDEPENDENT,
UNWILLING TO TAKE ANY
HELP FROM YOUR *EX-HUSBAND*...

"YOU MUST'VE BEEN
OVERJOYED WHEN
BILLY GRIPPO WALKED
INTO YOUR OFFICE.



"YOU HAD THE *TALENT*-- BUT
GRIPPO HAD THE CASES THAT
MADE YOUR REP. IT WAS
PROBABLY THE BEST TIME
OF YOUR LIFE.

"BUT GRIPPO'S WORLD IS
HARD AND ONLY MAKES YOU
HARDER. AND WHEN YOU
FINALLY KNEW YOU COULD
MAKE IT ON YOUR *OWN*
AND WANTED *OUT*...

"YOU ALSO KNEW
ALMOST NO ONE
LEAVES THAT
WORLD... *ALIVE*.

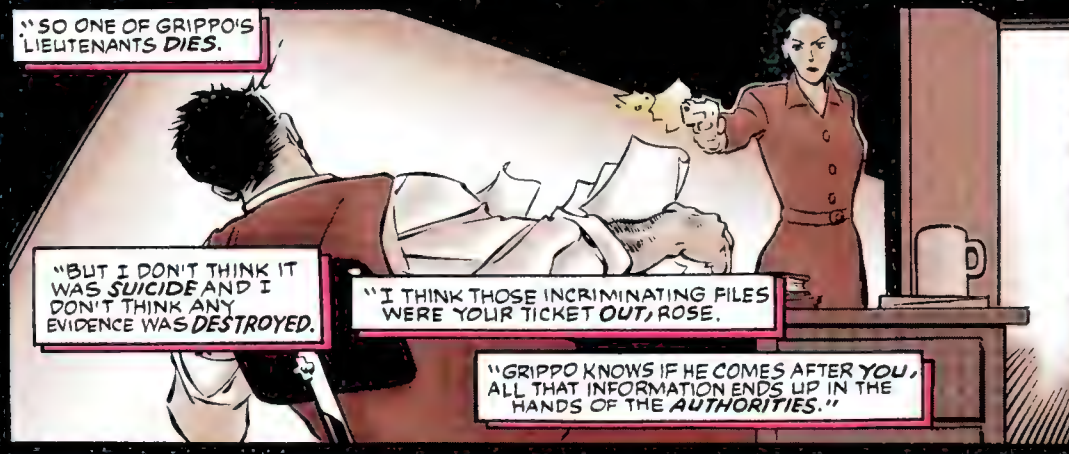


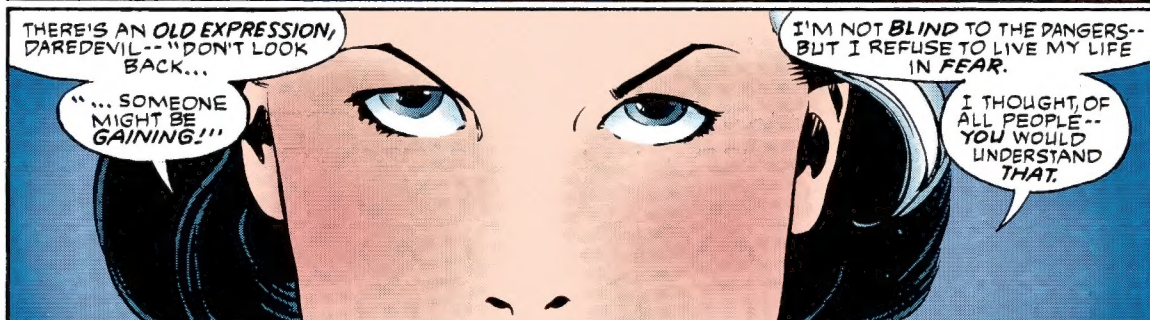
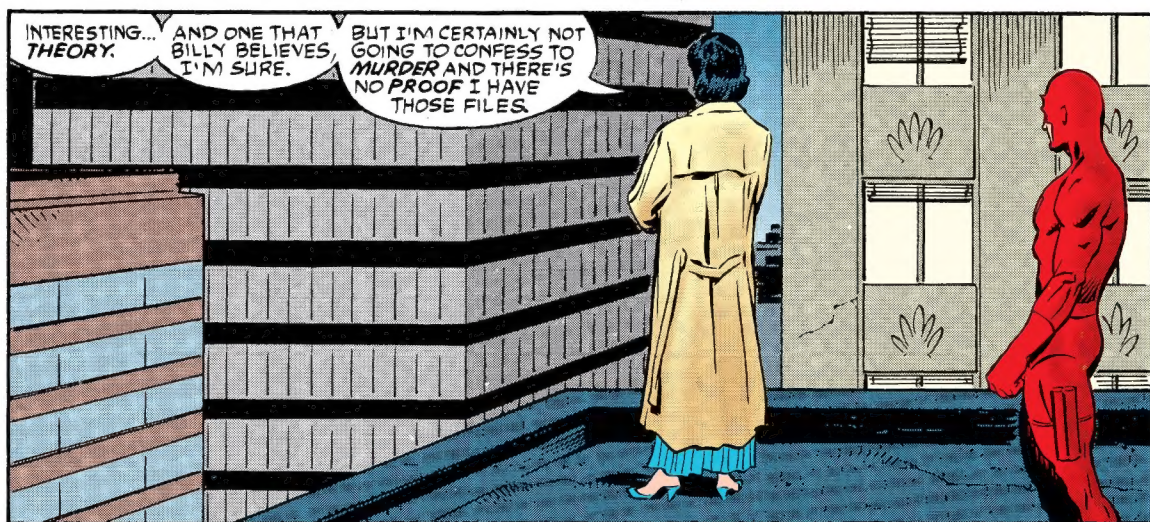
"SO ONE OF GRIPPO'S
LIEUTENANTS *DIES*.

"BUT I DON'T THINK IT
WAS *SUICIDE* AND I
DON'T THINK ANY
EVIDENCE WAS *DESTROYED*.

"I THINK THOSE INCRIMINATING FILES
WERE YOUR *TICKET OUT*, ROSE.

"GRIPPO KNOWS IF HE COMES AFTER *YOU*,
ALL THAT INFORMATION ENDS UP IN THE
HANDS OF THE *AUTHORITIES*."





OF COURSE, I *DO* UNDERSTAND
ROSALIND--BETTER THAN
SHE THINKS.

BUT THERE'S STILL
ONE THING I *DON'T*
UNDERSTAND...

klek

...AND ONLY *BILLY GRIPPO*
CAN EXPLAIN IT.

BET YOU'RE SORRY
YOU MADE *BAIL*
TODAY, HUNH,
PUNK?

WOK

AND WHAT DO WE HAVE *HERE--*
MOE, LARRY AND CURLY?

GUESS THAT MAKES
MY PAL IN THE TRENCHCOAT
SHEMP! NEVER DID LIKE
SHEMP!

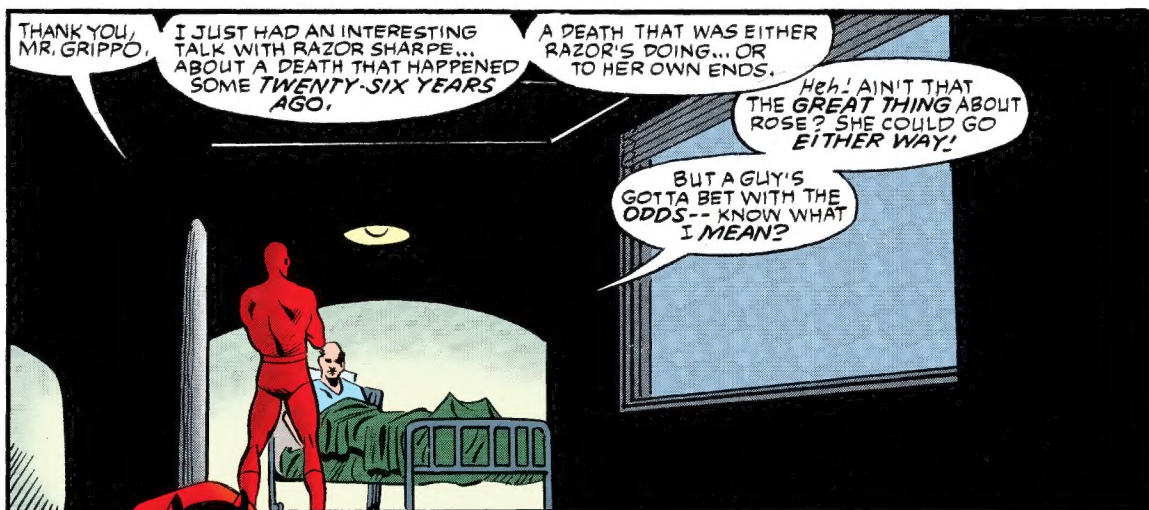
BOYS, BOYS-- YER MAKIN' OUR GUEST
NERVOUS! YOU THINK HE'D COME
IN THE FRONT DOOR IF HE WAS
GONNA CAUSE *TROUBLE?*

I BEEN
EXPECTIN'
HIM!

'MAKE YERSELVES
SCARCE, BOYS.

ME-- I'M TOO
OLD AN' DONE
TOO MUCH TA
BE SCARED O'
THE DEVIL
NOW!

OUT!



THANK YOU, MR. GRIPPO.

I JUST HAD AN INTERESTING TALK WITH RAZOR SHARPE... ABOUT A DEATH THAT HAPPENED SOME **TWENTY-SIX YEARS** AGO.

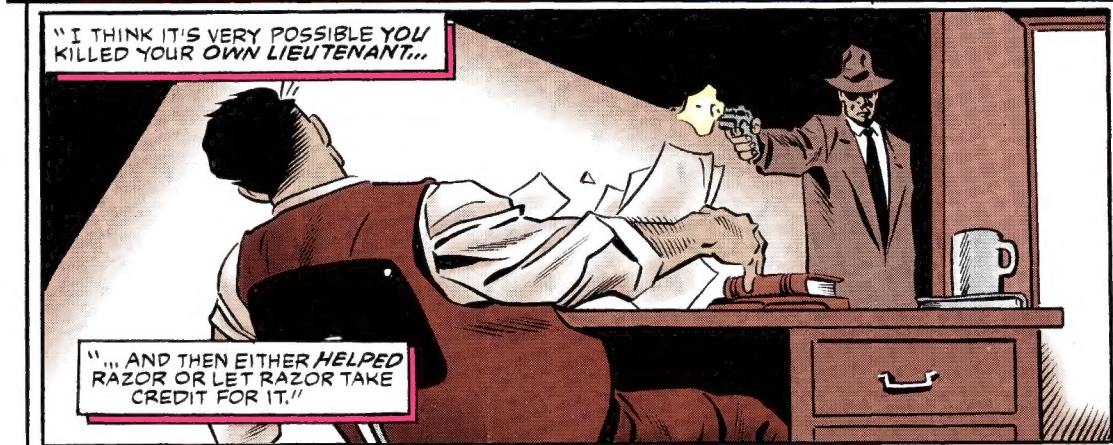
A DEATH THAT WAS EITHER RAZOR'S DOING... OR TO HER OWN ENDS.

Heh! AIN'T THAT THE **GREAT THING** ABOUT ROSE? SHE COULD GO EITHER WAY!

BUT A GUY'S GOTTA BET WITH THE **ODDS**-- KNOW WHAT I MEAN?



I THINK YOU ONLY BET WHEN THE **FIX** IS IN, MR. GRIPPO.



"I THINK IT'S VERY POSSIBLE YOU KILLED YOUR **OWN LIEUTENANT**..."

"... AND THEN EITHER **HELPED** RAZOR OR LET RAZOR TAKE CREDIT FOR IT."



Heh! NOW WHY WOULD I DO THAT, DEVIL?

SAME REASON YOU HIRED A **GREEN ATTORNEY** ALL THOSE YEARS AGO...

SAME REASON YOU SENT YOUR MEN AWAY WHEN I CAME, BUT NOT WHEN **RAZOR** WAS HERE.



YOU THINK YOU KNOW?

YOU'LL NEVER KNOW, DEVIL!

